



**Scottish Innovative Actions Programme
EU Networking Record**

Name of Event	The Competitiveness Institute Annual Conference	Type of Event – <i>seminar, conference, workshop, etc.</i>	Conference/workshops /study tours
Date of Event	9 th -13 th October	Duration of Event	5 Days
Venue	Lyon Chamber of Commerce	City / Country	Lyon, France
Description of Event	This is the leading conference for practitioners undertaking cluster-based initiatives to improve regional competitiveness.		

Name of Contact	Paul Hughes	Designation of Contact	Strategy Manager
Company Name	Scottish Enterprise	Telephone Number	0141 228 2512
Address	150 Broomielaw	Email Address	Paul.hughes@scotent.co.uk
	Atlantic Quay	Fax Number	0141 228 2818
	Glasgow G2 8LU	Other	
IA Strategic Theme.	1 – Regional Economies Based on Knowledge and Technical Innovation		

Programme Action Lines
This contributes to action line 1 – Scottish Innovation System

Projects supported under Action Lines
This project supports the Business Environment Mapping project undertaken by Scottish Enterprise and supported under the EU Innovative Actions Programme.

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<p>Successful Outcomes</p>	<p>Scottish Enterprise was asked to contribute to the conference on the topic of Cluster Monitoring and Evaluation, and so presented the results and learning from the Business Environment Mapping project. Following presentation of the results of the business environment mapping work, there has been significant interest in the outcomes and methodology amongst practitioners across the EU and beyond. SE has also been asked to participate in an international study into best practice in the monitoring and evaluation of the business environment for clusters industries.</p>
<p>What didn't work & why?</p>	<p>The conference was very successful from our perspective of networking with others and learning from international good practice in how to apply, monitor and evaluate the clusters approach.</p>
<p>How did you gather the learning from projects? How did you disseminate it?</p>	<p>The learning was achieved through presentation and participation at workshops, plenary sessions and study tours. It is intended that a short article will be produced for the Innovative Actions newsletter. Furthermore, through participation in the international best practice study, there will be greater dissemination of the outcomes from the business environment mapping exercise.</p>
<p>How were projects monitored?</p>	<p>As this was a one-off conference, this question is not relevant.</p>
<p>What EU Networking Activity was carried out? Outgoing/incoming?</p>	<p>Of the 25 members of the European Union, there were representatives from at least 21. Therefore, there was significant networking between representatives and this will continue with our representation on the international study alluded to earlier.</p>
<p>What private sector involvement was there? Was there any private sector financial involvement?</p>	<p>There was significant representation from both private firms and consultancies at the conference. The full breakdown of attendees was: Government – 168 Private firms – 112 Consultant – 52 University/Academic – 51 Other - 41</p>
<p>How was programme evaluated?</p>	<p>Again, as this was a one-off conference, there was no need for evaluation.</p>